

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 01665 172228Z
ACTION NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1238

UNCLAS CARACAS 1665

FOR NEA/RA FROM INSPECTOR ROBERT H. HARLAN

E.O. 11652: N/

TAGS:

SUBJECT: SENATE INQUIRY RE BELL HELICOPTER PAYMENTS IN IRAN

REFS: (A) STATE 36615 (B) STATE 42520

1. MY RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS LISTED IN PARA 3 OF REF A
AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) I AM NOT NOW AWARE THAT GENERAL KHATAMI HAD
AN OWNERSHIP INTEREST OF ANY NATURE IN STP OR AIR TAXI
BETWEEN 1960 AND 1975 THOUGH IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT
WHEN I LEFT IRAN IN 1969 AFTER FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE
THERE, I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN THIS AND SUBSEQUENTLY
FORGOTTEN IT.
- 2) SEE ANSWER NO 1.
- 3) SEE ANSWER NO 1.
- 4) I AM CONFIDENT I NEVER SPOKE WITH BELL HELICOPTER
OR TEXTRON OFFICIALS ABOUT ANY INTEREST GENERAL
KHATAMI MIGHT HAVE HAD IN STP OR AIR TAXI.
- 5) SEE ANSWER NO 4.
- 6) SEE ANSWER NO 4.
- 7) I DID NOT KNOW AND HAVE NEVER HEARD THAT ANY
BELL OR TEXTRON OFFICIALS KNEW OF ANY POSSIBLE
OWNERSHIP INTERESTS WHICH GENERAL KHATAMI MIGHT HAVE
HAD IN STP OR AIR TAXI.

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- 8) I DID NOT KNOW NOR HAD I EVER HEAR DURING MY FOUR
YEARS IN IRAN OF ANY PAYMENTS, GIFTS OR OTHER ITEMS
OF VALUE MADE OR BY GIVEN BY BELL DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY
TO IRANIAN OFFICIALS TO TRY TO GENERATE HELICOPTER
SALES IN IRAN. IT MAY BE THAT I HAVE READ SUBSEQUENT
NEWSPAPER COVERAGE OF SUCH PAYMENTS, ETC, BUT IF SO
I DO NOT RECALL SUCH REPORTS.

9) SIMILARY, I DID NOT KNOW NOR DID I EVER HEAR DURING MY FOUR YEARS IN IRAN THAT ANY OF THE DOLLAR PAYMENTS TO AIR TAXI MIGHT HAVE BEEN PASSED ON DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY TO IRANIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INCLUDING GENERAL KHATAMI IN CONNECTION WITH BELL'S 1972 HELICOPTER DEAL WITH THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT AND IF I HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY READ ACCOUNTS OF SUCH POSSIBLE PAYMENTS I DO NOT INDEPENDENTLY RECALL THEM.

10) SEE ANSWER NO 9.

11) I DID NOT KNOW AND I NVER HEARD DURING MY FOUR YEARS IN IRAN THAT BELL OR TEXTRON MAY HAVE MAINTAINED AT AT ANY TIME ANY FUND OR MONIES OR OTHER ASSESTS WHICH WRE NOT RECORDED ON THE CORPORATE BOOKS OR RECORDS, THOUGH I MAY HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY READ NEWSPAPER REPORTS TO THIS EFFECT.

(12) I HAVE NO REPEAT NO INFORMATION THAT MR G. WILLIAM MILLER HAD ANY KNOWLEDGE OF ANYOF THE MATTERS REFERRED TO IN THE 12 QUESTIONS LISTED IN PARAS 3 OF REF A.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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